CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method comprising:

reading one or more track offsets from a compact disk ("CD"); and

performing a database lookup using said offsets to identify information associated with said CD in said database ("CD-related information").

2.   The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

encoding said offsets into an identification code; and

performing said database lookup using said identification code.

3.   The method as in claim 2 wherein encoding comprises:

executing a hash algorithm to generate said identification code.

4.   The method as in claim 3 wherein said hash algorithm is an MD5 hash algorithm.

5.   The method as in claim 4 wherein said MD5 hash is rendered in a Base-64 format.

6.   The method as in claim 1 wherein said CD-related information comprises CD titles and CD track titles.

1   7.   The method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2   if two or more CDs have the same track offsets, employing one or more

3   supplemental identification techniques to distinguish said two or more CDs in

4   said database.

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1   8.   The method as in claim 7 wherein one of said supplemental

2   identification techniques comprises:

3   performing an analysis of audio content stored on said CDs.

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1   9.   The method as in claim 8 wherein performing said analysis comprises:

2   identifying an audio analysis frame within which said audio content will be

3   analyzed; and

4   transforming said audio content into a spectral representation of said

5   audio content, said spectral representation usable to distinguish said two or more

6   CDs having the same track offsets.

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1   10. The method as in claim 9 wherein transforming further comprises:

2   performing one or more fast-Fourier transforms on said audio content

3   within said audio analysis frame to obtain said spectral representation as a matrix

4   of frequency coefficients.

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1   11. The method as in claim 10 further comprising:

2   convolutionally encoding one or more columns of said matrix to generate

3   convolutional codes representing each of said columns.

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1   12. The method as in claim 11 further comprising:

2   encoding said convolutional codes to produce a single code representing

3   said matrix.

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1   13. The method as in claim 12 wherein encoding comprises:

2   performing a hash of said convolutional codes.

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1   14. The method as in claim 12 wherein encoding comprises:

2   convolutionally encoding said convolutional codes.

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1   15. A method for identifying media comprising:

2   identifying a multimedia analysis frame comprised of multimedia content

3   within said media;

4   transforming said multimedia content into a spectral representation of said

5   multimedia content; and

6   using said spectral representation to uniquely identify said media within a

7   database.

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1   16. The method as in claim 15 wherein identifying said multimedia

2   analysis frame comprises:

3   measuring average energy of multimedia content within one or more test

4   frames; and

5   identifying a test frame as said multimedia analysis frame if average

6   energy within said test frame is above a threshold value.

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1   17. The method as in claim 16 further comprising:

2   identifying a start point for said test frame based on energy of said

3   multimedia content at said start point.

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1   18. The method as in claim 15 wherein transforming comprises:

2   converting said multimedia content into a plurality of frequency

3   coefficients.

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1   19. The method as in claim 18 wherein converting comprises:

2   performing one or more fast-Fourier transforms on said multimedia

3   content within said multimedia analysis frame to obtain a matrix of frequency

4   coefficients.

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1   20. The method as in claim 19 further comprising:

2   convolutionally encoding one or more columns of said matrix to generate

3   convolutional codes representing each of said columns.

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1   21. The method as in claim 20 further comprising:

2   encoding said convolutional codes to produce a single code representing

3   said matrix.

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1   22. The method as in claim 20 wherein encoding comprises:

2   performing a hash of said convolutional codes.

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1   23. The method as in claim 15 wherein said multimedia content comprises

2   audio content.

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1   24. The method as in claim 23 wherein said media is a compact disk.

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1   25. A method for identifying compact disks ("CDs") comprising:

2   generating a first identification code based on data stored on a first CD;

3   attempting to perform a database lookup in a CD database using said first

4   identification code; and

5   employing a second identification technique if said first identification code

6   is a duplicate of an identification code used to identify a second CD in said

7   database.

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1   26. The method as in claim 25 wherein said first identification code is

2   based on data stored in a table of contents ("TOC") of said first CD.

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1   27. The method as in claim 26 wherein said data are track offsets for said

2   CD.

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1   28. The method as in claim 25 wherein generating a first identification

2   code comprises:

3   performing a hash of said track offsets to generate an offset hash value.

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1   29. The method as in claim 28 wherein said hash comprises an MD5

2   hash.

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1   30. The method as in claim 29 wherein said offset hash value is rendered

2   in base-64 format.

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1   31. The method as in claim 25 wherein said second identification

2   technique comprises an analysis of a frame of audio content stored on said first

3   CD.

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1   32. The method as in claim 31 wherein said analysis comprises

2   transforming said frame of audio content into its spectral components.

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1   33. The method as in claim 32 wherein transforming comprises:

2   performing one or more fast-Fourier transforms on said frame of audio

3   content to produce a matrix of frequency coefficients.

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1   34. The method as in claim 33 further comprising:

2   transforming said matrix into a single value representing said matrix.